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MINUTES

OF THE

MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

OF THE

WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

11 - 13 August, 1980

Meeting held at
Foyer John Knox
Geneva, Switzerland

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WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Foyer John Knox
Geneva, Switzerland

11-13 August, 1980

1. OPENING ACTIONS

A. Introduction and worship

The meeting convened at 8.30 a.m. on Monday, 11 August.

The Moderator conducted the opening act of worship. On 12 and 13 August worship was led by Dr Marshall and Dr Rossel respectively.

B. Roll call

The General Secretary called the roll, presenting apologies from His Holiness Iliya II, Dr Simatupang, His Eminence Metropolitan Chrysostomos and the Rev. John Gatu.

C. Minutes

In the minutes of the meeting held at Liebfrauenberg, Woerth, France, 11-15 February 1980, the dates of the Executive Committee in February 1982 (p. 51) should be 15-19 February 1982. With this correction, the minutes, having been previously circulated, were confirmed.

D. Adoption of agenda

The General Secretary introduced the draft agenda, which was adopted.

2. REPORT OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY

The General Secretary prefaced his report by expressing deep gratitude to members of the Executive Committee for upholding him in the past weeks by their prayers and letters.

He then spoke of recent developments in relationships with a number of member churches. In June the Presbyterian Church in Ireland had withdrawn from membership of the WCC. The Church had been a founding member of the

Council but there had been difficulties from the start. Despite a number of staff visits, the Church had suspended membership after the grant from the Special Fund to the Patriotic Front of Zimbabwe. It was hoped to find a way of maintaining contacts with the Church.

With regard to the Salvation Army, which had also suspended membership, it was hoped that a delegation would visit Geneva at an appropriate time. The position of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Schaumburg-Lippe, which had also suspended membership, was still uncertain.

The Presbyterian Church in Taiwan had expressed a wish to take up active membership in the Council again. Following the arrest of its General Secretary, the Rev. C.M. Kao, there had been a joint WCC/WARC visit to express the solidarity of churches and Christians around the world with the Presbyterian Church in Taiwan.

The General Secretary referred to the situation of the churches in Zimbabwe. A team had tried to ascertain needs following the end of the conflict, and there would be a further team visit by the Christian Medical Commission. In South Africa the South African Council of Churches had become more and more a voice of the people and the support they had received from churches in other countries had enabled them to be firm and clear in their stands.

Speaking about visits to Geneva, the General Secretary referred to the visit by the Syrian Orthodox Patriarch, Ignatius Yakoub III, and expressed concern about the situation of the churches in the Middle East. Many Christians were leaving the area. Recent legislation in Egypt could harm the Christian community there. Contacts with British churches had been particularly cordial in recent months. Following the visit to Geneva last year, the Church of England had doubled its contribution to the WCC from 1981. There had been visits from the Moderator of the Church of Scotland and the President of the Methodist Conference, both of whom had expressed appreciation of the wide variety of work done by the Council.

Reporting on his own recent travels the General Secretary expressed concern that the black churches in the USA felt marginalized in the Council's life. Dr Potter paid tribute to the churches in Australia which had contributed so much to the success of the CWME Conference in Melbourne and had enabled participants to visit churches throughout the country.

Turning to relationships with the Roman Catholic Church, the General Secretary referred to the meeting of the Joint Working Group in Marseilles immediately following the February Executive Committee. The Group had concentrated on the theme of the collaboration in the field of social

thought and action between the Roman Catholic Church and the WCC and its member churches. It had agreed on the publication of the documents, "Towards a confession of the common faith" and "Common witness". Since the meeting the Secretaries of SODEPAX had both resigned to take up other posts and the Central Committee would have to consider how relationships with the Roman Catholic Church could be continued on issues of society, development and peace. The Roman Catholic Church had been enthusiastically involved in the Melbourne Conference and was determined to maintain cooperation with CWME. In Latin America there had been close relationships with the Roman Catholic Church on human rights issues, and Cardinals Silva and Arns as well as Archbishop Helder Camara had visited the Ecumenical Centre.

The General Secretary referred briefly to a number of events which would be reported fully to the Central Committee. These included the process of consultation on Racism in the 1980s, which had involved meetings in all continents and an international consultation in Amsterdam, chaired by Ms Skuse, and the CWME Melbourne Conference, which had been followed by many staff visits in Australasia and Asia.

With regard to Assembly preparations, the General Secretary reported that he had written to members of Central Committee in April about the shape, scope, character and theme of the Sixth Assembly, but had received few replies. There had been intensive staff discussion and it was suggested that the motif of "Life" might provide a possible theme.

In discussion His Holiness Karekin II expressed concern about the situation of the churches in the Middle East and particularly the Armenian community in Iran, which was affected by recent legislation. Dr McCloud suggested that WCC representatives might pay a pastoral visit to express concern for the welfare of Christians in Iran. Prof. Barkat thanked the General Secretary for the report on relations with various member churches and hoped this would become a regular part of the report. He also spoke of the need for more analysis of Islam in the modern world and of the violation of human rights of Muslim communities within Islam. Ms Webb stressed the importance of personal visits to the WCC by church leaders and others, and of personal reports by participants in the communication of meetings.

Dr Raiser spoke of his recent visit to Ireland. The campaign in the Presbyterian Church in Ireland had produced a high level of ecumenical sensitivity and the supporters of the WCC could now concentrate on a more active ecumenical witness. It was agreed that Ms Sampath and Ms Webb, together with Dr Raiser and Mr Moss, should draft a statement for the Central Committee regarding the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. With regard to the Evangelical Church of Schaumburg-Lippe, Dr Raiser reported that he had been in correspondence with the Church on behalf of the General Secretary and had met its leadership. The Church was

particularly concerned about the PCR Special Fund and the attitude of the WCC to Conservative Evangelicals. It had set a number of conditions to be settled before it resumed membership.

Mr Castro reported on the world meeting of Evangelicals at Pattaya, Thailand, in June which had been called by the Lausanne Continuation Committee to assess the work of Evangelicals since the Lausanne Conference and to plan for the future. Participants had been invited on an individual basis from among those who had signed the Lausanne Covenant. The meeting had contained three elements: plenary sessions with presentations but no discussion; 17 small consultations, and a Committee on Cooperation which worked on proposals for future work. It had been decided to call a Conservative Evangelical consultation on social responsibility in two years' time. Although it was not thought possible for the movement to enter into relationship with the WCC, it was felt that some matters could be studied together. Mr Castro stressed the need for the WCC to spell out the biblical basis for all its work and to keep a place in the ecumenical movement for those of Evangelical persuasion.

Mr Koshy reported on his recent visit to Ethiopia, which was part of a series of discussions with the churches and government. Questions of religious liberty and a number of specific cases had been considered.

With regard to SODEPAX, Dr Raiser outlined the steps which had led to the termination of its mandate by the end of 1980. While liaison with the Pontifical Commission on Justice and Peace would continue, the possibility of collaboration with other partners in the areas of justice and service was being explored.

3. MODERATOR'S REPORT TO CENTRAL COMMITTEE

The Moderator briefly outlined the report he proposed to submit to Central Committee. This would include the present situation with regard to staffing and finance; some programme activities and a number of major events, including the Faith and Order Commission meeting in Bangalore, the MIT Conference, the Melbourne Conference and the World Consultation on Combating Racism in the 1980s. He would also discuss relationships with member churches, regional ecumenical bodies, non-member churches and movements which cut across member churches. He would focus attention on the decisions which the Central Committee would have to make with regard to the Sixth Assembly, and stress that the preparatory period should be seen very much as part of the Assembly.

4. REPORT OF THE REVIEW SUB-COMMITTEE

The report (Appendix III) was presented by Dr Wedel and referred for further discussion to the Programme Sub-Committee.

At a later session, His Holiness Karekin II, on behalf of the Sub-Committee, reported as follows:

1. The Programme Sub-Committee discussed the report and recommendations by the Review Sub-Committee as referred to it by the Executive Committee. The Programme Sub-Committee finds itself in general agreement with the report as submitted by the Review Sub-Committee and recommends to the Executive Committee to receive the report and, with the additional observations and/or amendments indicated below, to approve its recommendations and to submit the report to the Central Committee for discussion in the Unit Committees and for final action.

2. In making this recommendation it is the understanding of the Programme Sub-Committee that the first report of the Review Sub-Committee together with the actions of the Executive Committee in response to its recommendations, has been circulated already to the members of Central Committee through the Minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee at Bossey, September 1979 (cf. for the report Appendix IV, pp. 55-66; for actions by the Executive Committee cf. pp. 12-16). The Programme Sub-Committee underlines that the two reports and the corresponding actions by the Executive Committee have to be seen together.

3. Follow-up on previous recommendations

a) The Programme Sub-Committee agrees with the recommendation regarding the transfer of the Programme on Theological Education (PTE) to the Programme Unit on Education and Renewal. In view of the meeting of the PTE Commission in June 1981, it proposes that the transfer should become effective as from August 1, 1981 so that the PTE would be fully part of Unit III by the time of the Central Committee meeting in 1981. However, it is expected that the establishment of closer working relationships between PTE and sub-units in Unit III will begin immediately, with a view to finalising the transfer at the time indicated above.

b) The Programme Sub-Committee affirms the observations made by the Review Sub-Committee regarding realignment of programmes on ecumenical education, development education and education for mission. It recommends that these observations be considered as guidelines for a process which should lead to definite results at the latest by the end of 1981. Progress reports should be brought to the Central Committee through the appropriate Unit Committees in August 1981.

c) The Programme Sub-Committee explicitly endorses the recommendation made by the Review Sub-Committee requesting the Assistant General Secretary for Finance and Administration to work with each sub-unit to develop a plan for establishing minimum fund balances in order to have a proposal for consideration by the Executive Committee in February 1981.

d) In endorsing the observations contained in the report of the Review Sub-Committee concerning the review of the Project System, the Programme Sub-Committee takes note of the additional affirmation which was left out of the written report by the Review Sub-Committee due to an oversight (paragraph 6 "Project System and Funding Instruments"). After the second sentence the following should be inserted: "The Review Sub-Committee is convinced that the WCC should continue to maintain an identifiable instrument for the sharing of material resources." The Programme Sub-Committee expresses its agreement with this conviction.

4. Recommendations concerning separate programmes

The Programme Sub-Committee approves the observations and proposals made by the Review Sub-Committee regarding special programmes. After a full discussion, it recommends the following amendment to the paragraph regarding the Study on the Community of Women and Men in the Church:

> "...reaffirms its understanding that the present Programme will come to an end with the concluding report which is to be presented to the Faith and Order Commission in January 1982. The follow-up of the programme process will be the responsibility of the Advisory Group for the programme, constituted by the two sponsoring sub-units, i.e. the Commission on Faith and Order and the sub-unit on Women. The Advisory Group is requested to bring recommendations regarding the follow-up to the Central Committee in 1981 through the reports of the two sponsoring sub-units with the understanding that the follow-up be seen as an integral part of the process of Assembly preparations."

The Executive Committee agreed to adopt this report.

5. SIXTH ASSEMBLY PLANNING

Following the General Secretary's letter to members of Central Committee, the theme and shape of the Sixth Assembly had been discussed by a staff group and by SEG. Mr Perkins introduced a document summarizing the results of this staff reflection process.

After discussion, in which "Joy", "Life" and "Power" were considered as possible foci for the theme of the Assembly, the document was referred to the Programme Sub-Committee.

At a later session His Holiness Karekin II presented the report of the Programme Sub-Committee.

The Executive Committee had received a report summarising the results of a preliminary staff reflection process on Assembly planning. The report had been referred to the Programme Sub-Committee for consideration. As requested by the Executive Committee in February 1980, the General Secretary had addressed a letter to the members of the Central Committee asking for their comments with regard to preparations for the next Assembly. An oral summary of the reactions received had been provided to the Executive Committee.

The Programme Sub-Committee recommended and the Executive Committee agreed to forward the staff report on the Sixth Assembly to the Central Committee for further discussion in the Committee on the General Secretariat. The Programme Sub-Committee added the following comments and proposals to the report and recommended and the Executive Committee agreed that they be forwarded as well to the Central Committee together with the staff report. The comments followed the structure of the staff report.

1. Theme

The Sub-Committee suggested that the theme include a biblical phrase, and bear direct witness to Jesus Christ as the last several Assembly themes had done. It also thought that the theme should deal with "life" as the central category around which other themes like "joy" and "power" could be organised. It therefore proposed the theme:

JESUS CHRIST - FOR THE LIFE OF THE WORLD

(John 6 : 51)

Treatment of the Theme: Studies on the theme of the Sixth Assembly should begin soon after Central Committee approved the theme. It should now take three forms:

(a) A series of simple Bible studies for use in local groups all over the world, to be produced by a team of people. These should be translated or adapted for local conditions in various parts of the world.

(b) A series of testimonies solicited from local groups and persons, which speak of how they see this theme from their particular personal and social contexts and experiences.

(c) The preparation of a solid theological document dealing with various issues related to the main theme. This should be the outcome of deep theological reflection, study and research and should

identify and explore the various aspects of the main theme as related to the fundamental concerns of the WCC. In order to produce such a basic tool for theological reflection, it was proposed that a well-planned small consultation be held with the participation of 8 to 15 people from different social contexts and theological traditions, to study the main theme at some depth. There should be three or four preparatory papers; the consultation could result in a study book of some 200 pages with some common consensus statements and three or more different personal statements of positions from the situation of each writer, but benefiting from the common discussion in the Consultation. Such a book should be ready by Central Committee in 1981, and should be the basis of discussions in theological seminaries, local ecumenical consultations and other appropriate groups.

The study process through these three instruments should generate world-wide discussion for two years before the Assembly, and not for just six months or one year.

2. Programme

The Programme Sub-Committee affirmed the general observations made in the staff notes regarding Assembly programme. In particular it accepted the distinction made between "sub-themes which would give prominence in the forum of the Assembly to certain issues which are critical at this moment in the life of the churches and in the WCC" and "issues that have been worked on within the WCC and which are ripe for action by the churches and therefore call for serious discussion at the Assembly".

The Programme Sub-Committee recommended and the Executive Committee agreed that the Assembly programme be structured in three phases:

- the first of about 6 days would concentrate on presentations and discussion in plenary and work groups on the main theme and sub-themes;

- the second of about 5 days would focus on work in committees as well as in issue-groups;

- the third of 4 days would be essentially for final reporting in plenary.

In general terms it was suggested that during the first two phases there be normally one session in work groups and one in plenary every day.

The Programme Sub-Committee had taken note of the need for early consultation with the representatives of the Canadian and Vancouver Assembly Committees regarding Canadian and Vancouver local participation in, and contribution to, the programme of the Assembly.

3. Shape of the Assembly

The Programme Sub-Committee strongly commended the attempt to simplify the structure of the Assembly and to work towards a more transparent flow of the process between plenaries, work groups, committees, etc.

(a) Plenaries

The Programme Sub-Committee approved the staff proposals on plenaries and considers it important to provide sufficient time for presentations and debate in plenary.

(b) Work Groups

Next to plenaries, work groups of up to 30 members should be seen as a central element in the life of the Assembly.

(c) Sub-plenaries or Clusters

The Programme Sub-Committee proposed that the discussion of the main theme should be developed and sharpened by way of a number of sub-themes. The number of sub-themes would determine the number of sub-plenaries or clusters, i.e. larger groupings of work groups. A narrow specialisation of work groups according to thematic clusters should be avoided. Further thought was needed to find a flexible way of organising the clustering of work groups.

(d) Hearings

The Programme Sub-Committee did not feel that it was necessary to include Hearings in the programme of the Assembly in view of the proposed process for Assembly preparations.

(e) Committees

The Programme Sub-Committee agreed that there was a need for a Policy and Programme Guidelines Committee. The exact place and role of such a Committee at, and possibly after, the Assembly had to be defined more clearly.

(f) Other

The Programme Sub-Committee suggested that in shaping the structure of the Assembly, care should be taken to provide sufficient spaces for free time.

RECOMMENDATIONS

With the qualification or additional proposals made above,

the Programme Sub-Committee recommended and the Executive Committee agreed to approve in principle the staff proposals regarding the shape of the Assembly.

4. Process of Assembly preparation

Based on earlier recommendations by the Central and Executive Committees, the staff report presented a number of proposals regarding the process of Assembly preparation. These were also considered and developed further by the Review Sub-Committee meeting prior to the session of the Executive Committee.

The Programme Sub-Committee had considered both reports by the staff and the Review Sub-Committee and approved the general lines suggested therein for the process of Assembly preparation. In particular, it had considered the recommendations included in section IV of the report by the Review Sub-Committee and with the following additional observations recommended and the Executive Committee agreed to submit these recommendations to the Central Committee for debate and final action.

(a) It is proposed that member churches be requested to submit the names of their delegates to the Sixth Assembly to the General Secretary by May 15, 1981.

(b) Regarding the process of visitation and consultation with member churches in 1982 and 1983, it is proposed that

- priority be given to a careful preparation of regional meetings, with the understanding that in some regions this may mean planning for sub-regional, national and in some cases even sub-national meetings instead of or in addition to one large regional meeting;
- among different groups of potential participants, priority should be given to newly appointed Assembly delegates as well as leaders of member churches from the area or region;
- member churches and local, national and regional ecumenical bodies be encouraged to cooperate in setting up preparatory groups for the visits by ecumenical teams and for the meetings with delegates, etc.;
- wherever possible, attempts be made to link visits and consultations with ecumenical events in the area which bring together a significant number of the persons concerned.

(c) It is proposed that the detailed plan for the process of Assembly preparation which is to be submitted to the Executive Committee in February 1981 include, in addition to a timetable of events and an indication of the

distribution of staff responsibilities, proposals regarding: staff travel from 1982 onward, the re-allocation of financial resources under operational and programme budgets of sub-units for purposes of Assembly preparation, the responsibilities of Programme Units, sub-units, regional task forces, etc.

(d) Being aware of the stupendous task which the Communication Department will be facing in the context of Assembly preparations, the Programme Sub-Committee proposes, in line with the recommendation from the Review Sub-Committee, that the Department present an overall plan, including a timetable, for activities in the communication aspect of Assembly preparations to the Central Committee in 1981.

After discussion and amendment, the Executive Committee agreed to receive the report and forward it to the Committee on the General Secretariat in the light of the discussion.

6. PUBLIC ISSUES

Mr Niilus presented a Note on WCC actions on public issues since the Central Committee meeting in Jamaica, and certain elements of pronouncements made by the Executive Committee on some special issues during the same period. He also suggested that the Executive Committee consider the feasibility and desirability of holding an information session on public issues during the Central Committee, in order to give an overall picture and to demonstrate the inter-relatedness of many of the issues.

In discussion members pointed to a number of issues not sufficiently covered by the Note; in particular Dr McCloud was concerned that there was no substantial note on Afghanistan or Iran. It was agreed that certain issues would be brought to the Central Committee through Unit II but that no information session should be held.

Mr Koshy presented Notes on the following issues which it was suggested should be discussed by Central Committee: Nuclear Disarmament, South Korea, the Middle East, South Africa and Namibia, Central America and Bolivia, and Indochina.

Nuclear Disarmament

Mr Koshy referred to recent developments and the statement, "Science for Peace" made by the World Conference on Faith, Science and the Future. He suggested that a possible Central Committee statement might be drafted by a joint Unit II and Church and Society group. Archbishop Kirill felt that a statement declaring the opposition of Christians to nuclear armaments was urgently needed. It should

also express the general concern of Christians with all the related problems such as non-proliferation and nuclear tests. The Executive Committee agreed that the issue be presented to the Central Committee.

South Korea

Mr Koshy said it was proposed to prepare a statement assuring the churches in South Korea of the support of the ecumenical community in their struggle for a just society. Dr Kang emphasized that the NCC in Korea tried to support the struggle through dialogue rather than protest or resistance. The WCC should help the Korean churches to witness in this way and any action should be taken in consultation with the representatives of the member churches in Korea. Dr McCloud suggested that the Central Committee send a pastoral letter to the churches in Korea rather than make a public statement. The Executive Committee agreed that the question should be presented to the Central Committee.

Middle East

Mr Niilus presented the Note on the Middle East and a telex from the Middle East Council of Churches calling for an emergency meeting of its member churches on the subject of Jerusalem. His Holiness Karekin spoke of the necessity of knowing and listening to the churches in the region which had over the centuries found ways of living with their Muslim neighbours. Efforts should be made to stop the harassment of the churches and should not be confined to caring for the refugees from the area. The Executive Committee agreed that the issue of the Middle East should be taken up by the Central Committee.

It was agreed to recommend that the Central Committee endorse the statement on "Threats to Peace" made by the Executive Committee at its meeting in February 1980.

The Executive Committee also agreed to recommend that the Central Committee make statements on South Africa and Namibia, Bolivia, Indochina, and "Food in the 1980s".

7. THE PROCESS OF CONSULTATION ON CHURCHES RESPONDING TO RACISM IN THE 1980s

Ms Skuse presented the report on the process of consultation and the World Consultation held in Amsterdam on "Churches responding to racism in the 1980s", which would be submitted to the Central Committee. She stressed that the many reports of the national and regional consultations were part of the process. The Amsterdam meeting had not been an easy one and had underlined the complexity of the issues and their relation to other issues being tackled by the WCC. Not only the regional meetings but also the

seven working groups at the World Consultation had all stressed both the need to continue and strengthen the Programme to Combat Racism and that the struggle against racism was the task of all the churches.

Mr Sjollema added that the full report would be discussed by the Unit II Committee. The annotated agenda summarized the reports and addressed specific actions to the churches with regard to relationships with racially oppressed groups; issues on economic and political questions related to racism; questions related to church structures, and information and communication. It would be necessary for the Central Committee to select the issues to be followed up by the WCC itself.

8. SPECIAL FUND TO COMBAT RACISM

Mr Sjollema presented the recommendations of the PCR Commission for grants from the Special Fund to organisations of the racially oppressed and groups caring for the victims of racial injustice. The total amount recommended for allocation was high because of the balance remaining from 1979 and because income received by the Fund had continued to increase. Over 70 applications had been received. After careful checking and correspondence with the relevant NCCs and other bodies, 47 applications were recommended for approval, including 21 groups applying for the first time.

The applications of two liberation movements in South Africa were reviewed and the Committee was apprised that a grant was recommended to only one movement.

After discussion and some amendment of the proposals, the Executive Committee agreed to approve the proposed grants in the total amount of $775,500 (Appendix IV).

Bishop Harms voted against the grant to the Anti-Apartheid Movement and Informationsdienst Südliches Afrika in the German Federal Republic.

The Moderator referred to questions raised by Canadian bishops with regard to the criteria for grants to Aboriginal people working for land rights. It was agreed that a PCR representative would meet the Canadian bishops and others concerned.

In connection with the grant to the Kimberley Land Council, Ms Skuse referred to the land rights struggle of the Aboriginal people of Noonkanbah. The Executive Committee agreed to send the following cable to the chairman of the Kimberley Land Council:

> EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES MEETING IN GENEVA IN AUGUST DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT ARRESTS OF ABORIGINAL PEOPLE AND ENFORCED ENTRY OF OIL DRILLING

EQUIPMENT ONTO TRIBAL LANDS AT NOONKANBAH BY AMEX PETROLEUM LTD. AND WEST AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT. INTERNATIONAL CHURCH COMMUNITY EXPRESSES SOLIDARITY WITH NOONKANBAH PEOPLE IN THEIR STRUGGLE AS THEY TRY TO PROTECT TRIBAL LANDS, SACRED SITES AND SPIRITUAL HERITAGE.

9. APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

Dr Raiser presented the applications for membership.

a. Church of the Province of Nigeria (Anglican)

It was agreed to recommend that the Central Committee recognise the Church of the Province of Nigeria as a separate member church of the World Council of Churches, continuing the membership formerly held through the Church of the Province of West Africa.

b. Church of the Province of Burundi, Rwanda and Zaïre (Anglican)

It was agreed to recommend that the Central Committee recognise the Church of the Province of Burundi, Rwanda and Zaïre as a separate member church of the World Council of Churches, continuing the membership formerly held through the Church of the Province of Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi and Boga-Zaïre.

c. Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea

It was agreed to recommend that the Central Committee recognise the Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea as a separate member church of the World Council of Churches, continuing the membership formerly held through the Anglican Church in Australia.

Resignation from membership

Ms Webb presented a proposed statement regarding the resignation from membership of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. After discussion and amendment, the statement was accepted as follows:

1. The Executive Committee of the WCC, meeting in Geneva, 11-13 August, 1980, received with regret the information that the Presbyterian Church in Ireland has resigned its membership of the World Council of Churches. The decision had been taken by the General Assembly of the Church on 6 June, 1980 after several years of highly controversial debate. The motion

> "that the General Assembly rescind its former decisions in regard to membership of the World Council of Churches and terminate that membership"

was passed by 433 votes in favour of withdrawal and 327 votes against.

2. The Presbyterian Church in Ireland was a founding member of the WCC in 1939 despite reservations on the part of some in the Church. Controversial reactions to the WCC from within the Church began to surface in 1961, at that time directed against the merger of the International Missionary Council with the WCC. Further expression of uneasiness occurred when the relationships between the WCC and the Roman Catholic Church became closer after the Second Vatican Council.

3. In 1972 the General Assembly of the PCI, in response to the continuing criticism of the WCC, decided, with a vote of 219 : 168 to "reaffirm its membership in the World Council of Churches". A few years later an organised "Campaign for the Complete Withdrawal from the WCC" (CCW/WCC) was started by some members of the PCI. In response to memorials from five presbyteries calling for withdrawal, the General Assembly in 1976 decided:

> "That the General Assembly withdraw the Presbyterian Church in Ireland from membership of the World Council of Churches only if the Basis of the World Council of Churches is so altered as to deny the fundamental doctrines of the faith confessed by the Presbyterian Church in Ireland and/or its Constitution is so altered as to infringe upon the freedom of our Church to order its own life and faith."

4. A special meeting of the General Assembly in November 1978, called in response to reactions from presbyteries to the news about the grant given by the WCC to the Patriotic Front of Zimbabwe from the Special Fund of the Programme to Combat Racism, led to the decision to "suspend ... membership of the World Council of Churches until the Assembly of June 1979 with the possibility of renewing that suspension if the Assembly then accept appropriate notices of motion ...". This decision, which was renewed the following year, was preceded and followed by intensive communication through letter and in person between the WCC and the PCI. In particular, a meeting of a WCC delegation with members of the Inter-Church Relations Board of the PCI took place in December 1978.

The Executive Committee recommends that the Officers write to the PCI on behalf of the Central Committee to express their regret about losing a valued member of the WCC, and at the same time expressing the hope of continued working together in our common witness to Jesus Christ.

Dr McCloud expressed the hope that contacts would be maintained with the Presbyterian Church in Ireland through both the Irish Council of Churches and the World Alliance of Reformed Churches.

10. PROGRAMME OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Dr Raiser presented the draft agenda and timetable for Central Committee, including arrangements for worship and a number of evening meetings. The proposed arrangements were approved. It was agreed to ask the main speakers to keep strictly to the time schedule.

11. REPORT OF THE PROGRAMME SUB-COMMITTEE

In addition to the items reported under other headings, the Programme Sub-Committee considered the question of a response to the letter from the Officers of the Standing Commission on Faith and Order to the Officers and members of the Executive Committee of the WCC, dated August 24, 1979. The Executive Committee had been informed about the contents of this letter at its meeting in September 1979 but it was agreed that a response should be discussed at the time of the meeting in August 1980 in view of the expected arrival of the new Director of the Faith and Order Secretariat, and also in view of the fact that the next meeting of the Standing Commission on Faith and Order would not take place until January 1981.

His Holiness Karekin II, on behalf of the Programme Sub-Committee, presented an outline of a proposed response to be sent by the WCC Officers on behalf of the Executive Committee. It was agreed to empower the Officers to reply to the letter in the light of the discussion.

12. REPORT OF THE NOMINATIONS SUB-COMMITTEE

Ms Skuse presented the report of the Nominations Sub-Committee.

A. Membership of Central Committee

The Executive Committee considered nominations for vacancies caused by the deaths of Dr Nyembesi and the Rev. David Gqweta. It was agreed to defer decision until consultation had taken place with members of the Central Committee from Southern Africa.

It was noted that Dr A.H. van den Heuvel, Netherlands Reformed Church, had resigned from the Central Committee. No definite nomination for his replacement had been received from the Church.

It was reported that Dr Farantos had not accepted appointment to the vacant place on the Central Committee held for the Church of Greece. The Church had nominated Prof. John S. Romanides and it was agreed to recommend him for appointment by the Central Committee.

B. Membership of the Executive Committee

It was reported that Dr Appel, Dr Marshall and Dr Rossel had resigned their membership of the Executive Committee. Proposals for their replacement were received and it was agreed to recommend them to the Central Committee for final action. It was also agreed to recommend to the Central Committee the reappointment of the remaining members of the Executive Committee.

C. Moderator of the Finance Committee

Following the resignation of Dr Marshall, the Executive Committee agreed to nominate Dr J. Oscar McCloud as Moderator of the Finance Committee for appointment by the Central Committee.

The General Secretary paid tribute to the contributions made by Dr Marshall, Dr Rossel and Dr Appel to the work of the Executive and Central Committees.

D. Committee on Assembly Preparation

The Nominations Sub-Committee presented the proposed membership of the Committee on Assembly Preparation. The Executive Committee agreed that, following further consultation, the names be recommended to the Central Committee for appointment.

E. Changes in membership of Unit Committees

On the recommendation of the Sub-committee, the following changes in membership of Unit Committees for the forthcoming Central Committee meeting were agreed:

Bishop J. Allin - from Unit III Committee to General Secretariat

Very Rev. Dr Alan A. Brash (proxy for Mrs Anderson, Unit I) - to Unit II

Rev. Dr J. Crumley (replacement for Dr Marshall, General Secretariat) - to Unit III

Dr A. Geense (in place of Dr van den Heuvel, Unit II) - to Unit I

Rev. J.-P. Jornod (replacement for Dr Rossel, Unit I) - to General Secretariat

Bishop G. Muston - from General Secretariat to Unit II

Mr E. Rocha Souza (substitute for Archbishop Kratz, Unit I) - to Unit II.

F. Membership of Commissions and Working Groups

The Executive Committee considered nominations to fill vacant places on the Commissions and Working Groups of Faith and Order, PTE, CICARWS, and CMC. It was agreed to recommend the proposed names to the Central Committee for appointment.

In the case of the Faith and Order Plenary Commission, some names were not yet ready for submission to the Central Committee. It was agreed to ask the Central Committee to authorize the Executive Committee to act on names proposed at the time of its next meeting in February 1981 in order to give new members time to prepare for the next meeting of the Faith and Order Plenary Commission in January 1982.

It was noted that nominations to vacancies on the Working Groups of Church and Society and Communication were still awaited.

13. REPORT OF THE STAFFING SUB-COMMITTEE

In an open session Ms Skuse presented Part II of the report of the Staffing Committee.

Personnel Policy and Procedures

The Central Committee in January 1979 expressed concern about the nine-year rule and its application (see Minutes of Central Committee 1979, pp. 87-88). The Central Committee requested the Staffing Committee to undertake studies of the rules for staff contracts and a total examination of personnel policies, and to report to the next meeting of the Central Committee (p. 88 op. cit.).

The Central Committee in August 1977 approved a full statement of WCC policy regarding Staff Appointments and Reappointments (see Minutes of Central Committee 1977, pp. 97-98).

At its meeting in February 1980, the Executive Committee approved the following procedures:-

a) The Executive Committee should itself perform an overall yearly review of staffing and be alerted to possible exceptional cases which may have to be considered well before the time laid down by the Rules;

b) The Commissions, Working Groups, and the Board of the Ecumenical Institute should have as a permanent responsibility the review of their staffing needs. Whenever there is a reappointment of staff beyond six years, there should be consultation about the future needs of the sub-units and of the Council as a whole;

c) After consultation, the General Secretary should propose to the Executive Committee any recommendation for

extension beyond nine years to Central Committee. Arrangements should be made in such a way that the recommendation be acted upon soon afterwards by Central Committee. This may necessitate extending the person's appointment by the number of months required for fulfilling the rule of review one year before the end of the term of appointment.

d) It is clearly understood that where there is no recommendation, the staff person's appointment terminates after nine years, and that the matter cannot be raised in Central Committee.

The Executive Committee agreed to recommend that the Central Committee approve these procedures.

By-Laws of Programme Units

The Executive Committee in February 1980 also asked the staff "to make proposals about the revision of the guidelines and amendments required in the By-laws of Commissions and Working Groups, for discussion by the Staffing Sub-Committee for presentation to the Central Committee in August 1980".

This request is motivated by the fact that the Executive Committee, in its work on special cases for appointment or reappointment of staff, felt the need to clarify the extent to which Commissions and Working Groups share in this process. Staff discussion of this request concentrated on proposals for the appropriate revision in the By-laws of the three Programme Units.

The present By-laws refer to the appointment of staff in two places, Article III, 2, d) and Article V, 5. The text of these articles is reproduced below from the By-laws of the Programme Unit on Justice and Service, but the wording is essentially the same for the other two Programme Units (cf. Minutes of Central Committee 1977, App. XI, p. 114-ff; see also App. VIII and XII).

"ARTICLE III

1. There shall be a Committee of the Programme Unit appointed by the Central Committee.

2. The Committee shall:

   a) take responsibility under the authority of the Central Committee for the review and direction of the overall policy of the Unit;

   b) advise the Central Committee on what should be the central thrusts of the Council's work in the fields of justice and service and make recommendations on matters specifically referred to it by the Central Committee;

c) receive and evaluate reports from the sub-units and coordinate their programmes;

d) make recommendations to the Central Committee on budget proposals and staff requirements in consultation with the sub-units. ..."

It is proposed to reformulate Article III, 2 d) as follows:

"The Committee shall: ...

d) in consultation with the officers of the sub-unit commissions or working groups, make recommendations to the Central Committee on budget proposals and staff requirements arising from the sub-units."

Article V reads:

"Staff of the Programme Unit

1. The staff of the sub-units and any agencies related to them, as well as any staff serving the Programme Unit as a whole, shall collectively comprise the staff of the Programme Unit. They will conduct their activities in a collegial way.

2. A Staff Moderator shall be appointed by the General Secretary for a specified period of time. In collegial cooperation with the senior staff of the sub-units, he/she shall take responsibility for:

   a) coordinating the programmes of the sub-units and giving direction to any common programmes of the Programme Unit as a whole;

   b) arranging meetings of the Committee of the Programme Unit, reporting to it on behalf of the staff and following up its decisions on overall policy;

   c) convening meetings of the staff of the Programme Unit as needed to ensure cooperation among the sub-units and to plan common programmes;

   d) representing the staff of the Programme Unit in committees or meetings where such representation is necessary.

3. There shall be a Finance Officer of the Programme Unit with the responsibility for coordinating the financial operations of the Programme Unit as a whole.

4. There may be staff administratively related to the Unit as a whole and designated to carry out such common programmes as the Committee of the Programme Unit may determine.

5. The staff of the Programme Unit are appointed by the Central Committee in consultation with the Commissions of the sub-units."

It is proposed to change Article V, 5 above as follows:

"5. The Staff of the Programme Unit are appointed and/or reappointed by the Central Committee in consultation with the Officers of the Commissions or Working Groups of the sub-units, unless existing sub-unit By-laws stipulate otherwise."

The Executive Committee agreed to recommend to the Central Committee the adoption of the proposed changes in the By-laws of the three Programme Units after due notice has been given to Central Committee.

14. REPORT OF THE FINANCE SUB-COMMITTEE

Dr Marshall presented the report of the Finance Sub-Committee.

1. Introductory Report to Central Committee

The Finance Sub-committee gave attention to the following items which must receive major consideration in the Central Committee:

1) 1979 Financial Report
2) 1980 Financial situation
3) Income projections for 1980 and 1981
4) Progress report on special funding previously authorized
5) 1981 budget
6) Preliminary budget for 1983 Assembly

On the basis of information in documents on these items as distributed to the Executive Committee, the new Moderator of the Finance Committee will present an introductory report on the financial situation to the Central Committee.

2. Audit Committee

The Audit Committee had reviewed the 1979 Financial Report with the auditors, had made several minor suggestions which had resulted in revisions in the report, had expressed satisfaction with the work of the auditors and had recommended that the same firm - Ernst & Whinney S.A. - be retained for the 1980 accounts. This recommendation will be considered by the Finance Committee of the Central Committee. Since Dr Jacques Rossel has resigned as Moderator of the Audit Committee, the Finance Sub-Committee expressed its gratitude to him for his

faithful and capable service and recommends the appointment of Pastor Jean-Pierre Jornod as Moderator of the Audit Committee. This was agreed.

3. Fixed Exchange Rates

The World Council has been operating on the basis of exchange rates established annually for budget and accounting purposes, except that daily exchange rates have been used for accounting project monies.

The Investment Advisory Group has indicated a preference for using actual daily rates. A Sub-Committee of staff has studied the matter and has recognized that practical considerations weigh against the use of daily rates. In order to keep accounting abreast of actual operations, however, it is recommended that for a period of at least one financial year fixed exchange rates be reviewed every month and be established at the rates adopted by the UN. This was agreed.

4. Consultation on Staff Appointments

The Finance Sub-Committee received from the Staffing Sub-Committee the list of appointments to be recommended to the Central Committee or to be referred to the Officers with power to act.

Since all positions to be filled, with one exception, were included in the budgets to be submitted to the Central Committee, the Finance Sub-Committee did not take exception to any of the appointments. The item not included in the budgets was the revived position of Secretary for Publications within the Commission on World Mission and Evangelism and the Finance Sub-Committee recommends that the General Secretary ensure that appropriate funds are available to establish and maintain this appointment, prior to its submission to the Central Committee for approval.

5. Salary Policy

The following recommendation was adopted by the Executive Committee in February 1980 (Minutes p. 30):

> For each staff member who has had a performance appraisal by 1st August 1980, a performance appraisal be conducted each eighteen months thereafter, and for other members of the staff, the performance appraisal be conducted eighteen months after the effective date of appointment.

Some difficulty has been experienced in interpreting this recommendation. There is considered to be some advantage in conducting performance appraisals of as many staff as possible at about the same time, rather than on an individual basis at irregular intervals. Some sub-units

envisage conducting a performance appraisal for all staff every twelve months.

A second problem relates to salary increases, as the recommendation is linked to the paragraph in Staff Regulations (Chapter II, Section 2.02) which now reads:

> A member of the staff may obtain a one-step increase within a grade at least every 18 months provided that his/her performance is satisfactory as determined by the performance appraisal.

It is recommended that the wording adopted in February 1980 as cited above be replaced by the following:

> In order to fulfil the requirement that a performance appraisal shall be taken into account when considering a one-step increase every 18 months:
>
> (a) each staff member who has had a performance appraisal by August 1980 shall have another at least every 18 months thereafter;
>
> (b) other staff shall have a performance appraisal at least every 18 months after the effective date of appointment, and
>
> (c) in every case, the performance appraisal must have been completed within the six months immediately preceding the date for the 18 months step increase.

This was agreed.

6. Provident and Retirement Funds

The Committee received a report of the meeting of the Boards held on 11th August 1980 and noted in particular:

(a) the adoption of the accounts of the funds for the year to 31st December 1979;

(b) the satisfactory situation of the funds at 31st December 1979, reported by the funds' consulting actuaries;

(c) the authorization to invest the individual capital amounts held in the Provident Fund on a global basis with the Caisse d'Epargne, Geneva, in order to receive a higher rate of return, subject to the approval of members and to the introduction of appropriate administration procedures.

The Committee noted the resignations of Rev. Dr Robert Marshall, Moderator, and Dr Jacques Rossel, as members

of the Boards. It is recommended that Rev. Dr J. Oscar McCloud be appointed Moderator of the Boards and that a further board member be recommended for appointment at the February 1981 Executive meeting. This was agreed.

7. Computer Evaluation Report

Following the consideration by the sub-committee of the report prepared in November 1979, by Mr Vernon Sidler, a staff Computer Co-ordination Group (CCG) undertook the study and implementation of the recommendations in the report. The four-month period since the formation of CCG is too short to measure results. Some improvements have been noted, however, and work in the direction now begun must continue.

The Finance Sub-Committee expressed the opinion that a staff position should be created for data processing co-ordination and systems development, to enable computer responsibilities to be separated from those of the Comptroller, as recommended in the Sidler report.

8. Ecumenical Development Cooperative Society (EDCS)

At its February 1980 meeting, the Executive Committee accepted a proposal that the World Council enter into an agreement with the Board of the US Conference and with EDCS, whereby investors in the United States could be enabled to invest in shares of EDCS, with the US Conference and the World Council acting as intermediaries.

The legal advisers of the World Council were reluctant to give their approval to the tripartite agreement until such time as a disclosure statement, relating to the proposed issue of subvention certificates by the US Conference, had been drawn up for consideration. This has been done by Counsel for EDCS and the WCC's legal advisers have now expressed their satisfaction with the proposed wording of this disclosure document and with the agreement.

9. Consultation on Finances

The Finance Sub-Committee has had under consideration since the consultation on finances in October 1978, a further consultation on WCC finances. Such a consultation is now proposed to be held in Geneva in April 1981.

The main purpose of the consultation would be to assist the Finance Sub-Committee in establishing general financial policies and to respond to the challenges the ecumenical movement will face in the 80s in the current changing economic environment.

The objectives of the consultation would be threefold:

1. To increase the main donor churches' understanding of the World Council's financial operating policies;

2. to analyze past and projected changes in giving patterns both to the WCC and within the churches;

3. to study future strategy and planning for WCC budget financing in relation to the changes in giving patterns in the churches, as these changes affect such financing.

It is suggested that the following participation be envisaged at the consultation of up to 50 participants:

- Moderator of the Finance Sub-Committee (to act as Moderator of the consultation)

- Members of the Finance Sub-Committee

- One representative of each sub-unit commission or working group

- Leaders of member churches who exercise both programme and financial responsibilities in their churches

- Staffing: WCC Finance Department staff, including
  Unit Finance Officers
  WCC Office of Income Development

It is proposed that the Executive Committee recommend to the Central Committee a Consultation on Finances as outlined above.

10. Office space requirements

At its meeting held in December 1978, the Executive Committee decided that, due to financial uncertainties, it would not be wise to proceed with previously agreed plans for the expansion of the Ecumenical Centre. This was reported to the Central Committee in January 1979.

Since that time, requests for additional space, both within the WCC and from other organisations in the Centre, have made it necessary to reconsider this matter.

As an alternative to expanding the existing buildings, it is now proposed to purchase and erect a temporary building adjacent to the Rhône Wing. It is recommended that the total costs of up to Sfr 200,000 be approved and that the expended amount be recovered through the process of internal charges.

This was agreed.

11. Alterations to Ecumenical Centre

It is recommended that an expenditure of up to Sfr 150,000 be approved for the purpose of remodelling the Ecumenical

Centre, as may be necessary, to make it more suitable for use by handicapped persons, and that funding of this amount be arranged in a manner which will not adversely affect the regular budget of the Council.

This was agreed.

12. Banks doing business in South Africa

In August, 1972 the Central Committee adopted a policy against "the deposit of WCC funds in banks which maintain banking operations in South Africa".

Thereafter, correspondence with banks took place on the extent of their involvement in South Africa and one bank account was subsequently closed.

The Investment Advisory Committee and the Finance Sub-Committee have been concerned to have up-to-date information as a guide to investments and banking in South Africa. In May 1979 the UN Committee against Apartheid published a comprehensive list of all banks which it had ascertained had concluded business deals with the Government of South Africa or its para-statals between 1972 and 1978.

The Sub-Committee recommended and the Executive Committee agreed:

1. to request the Assistant General Secretary for Finance and Administration to correspond with banks in which the WCC has deposits, to

   (a) remind them of WCC policy,

   (b) inform them of the concern which the WCC has about the bank's involvement in loans to South Africa as tabulated in the UN report, and

   (c) ask for information on the bank's policy on South Africa; and

2. to request the staff of the Programme to Combat Racism, since they have indicated a willingness to do so, to develop, in consultation with the Assistant General Secretary for Finance and Administration, criteria that may serve as a guide in the application of the above cited policy with regard to banks.

13. Kunett bequest

The income of the World Council is likely to benefit soon from interest on a fund established on the basis of a bequest by Rudolph P. Kunett, at one time a member of the Board of the Ecumenical Institute Bossey, and friend of Dr Visser 't Hooft and other WCC leaders, including the

present Director of the New York Office. The fund will have a principal amount of about $1,000,000 and, according to the final testament of the donor, is to provide support for pensions of employees of the Friends of the World Council of Churches and for scholarships. The Friends of the World Council of Churches is an organisation through which individuals in the United States have provided support for the World Council. Plans have been made, whereby the Board of Directors of the Friends, meeting in October 1980, would ask the WCC to manage the investment of the fund and the distribution of income from the fund for employee fringe benefits in the New York Office and for costs of students at the Ecumenical Institute. After the WCC has assumed this responsibility, it will be possible to estimate the amount that may be available for these fringe designated purposes.

14. Thanks

The Executive Committee recorded its genuine appreciation for the dedicated services of Dr Jacques Rossel as a member of the Committee. Dr Rossel's proximity to the WCC Headquarters had made it possible for him to provide assistance to the Finance Committee and to the finance staff far beyond that which the Committee could normally expect of one of its members.

The members of the Committee expressed their best wishes to Dr Rossel and their warm thanks for his service.

The Committee also placed on record its deep gratitude to Dr Robert Marshall for his work as Moderator of the Finance Committee since his appointment to this office at the Nairobi Assembly.

The leadership of Dr Marshall, together with his knowledge and understanding of the finances of the World Council had proved invaluable during a period which had often been difficult and had always been challenging. His skill and wisdom had been matched only by the good sense, good humour and graciousness with which he had always conducted the Finance Committee's business and guided its deliberations.

The members of the Committee were of the firm opinion that Dr Marshall had made a most significant contribution to the development of sound financial policies for the Council, and they expressed their sincere appreciation to him for his unstinting efforts on behalf of the Council.

15. FUTURE MEETINGS

The following dates for meetings of the Executive and Central Committees were noted:

9-13 February 1981	Executive Committee	Geneva
14-16 August 1981	Executive Committee	Dresden, GDR
17-26 August 1981	Central Committee	Dresden, GDR
15-19 February 1982	Executive Committee	place open
15-26 August 1982 (provisional dates)	Executive and Central Committees	Sweden

16. CLOSING ACTIONS

The Moderator closed the meeting with prayer.

APPENDIX I

ATTENDANCE

PRESENT:

Honorary President:	Rev. Dr W.A. Visser 't Hooft
Presidents:	Hon. Mrs Justice A.R. Jiagge Prof. J. Miguez-Bonino Most Rev. O. Sundby Dr C. Wedel
Officers:	Most Rev. E.W. Scott (Moderator) His Holiness Karekin II (Vice-Moderator) Ms J. Skuse (Vice-Moderator) Rev. Dr P.A. Potter (General Secretary)
Members:	His Eminence Antonie (Plamadeala) Rev. Dr A. Appel Prof. Dr A.M. Barkat Mr Bena-Silu His Eminence Metropolitan Dr Paulos Mar Gregorios Bishop Dr H.H. Harms Bishop Dr J.W. Hempel Rev. Dr Won Yong Kang His Eminence Archbishop Kirill (Gundyayev) Rev. Dr R.J. Marshall Rev. Dr J.O. McCloud Rev. Dr J. Rossel Ms D. Sampath Ms P. Webb
Observer:	Protopresbyter V. Borovoy
Staff:	Rev. Dr P. Abrecht Ms M. Assaad Dr N. Barrow Rev. Dr U. Becker Rev. A. van der Bent Rev. J. Bluck Rev. Dr K. Bridston Rev. E. Castro Mr P. Coĩdan Mr T. Davies Mr J. Fischer Mr J. Hawthorn Rev. V. Hsu Mr W. Kenworthy Mr N. Koshy Rev. Dr W. Lazareth Ms M. Meinertz Mr P. Moss

	Mr R.W. Nesbitt
	Mr L. Niilus
	Rev. W. Perkins
	Rev. Dr K. Raiser
	Dr G. Rubeiz
	Prof. T. Sabev
	Rev. Dr S. Samartha
	Rev. Dr J. de Santa Ana
	Rev. A. Sapsezian
	Dr B. Sjollema
	Rev. Dr C.S. Song
	Rev. D. Tatchell
Interpreters:	Mr A. Chijov
	Ms I. Friedeberg
	Ms R. Ginglas-Poulet
Minute writer:	Ms A. Burrows
Administration:	Ms R. Green
	Ms B. Thaler

APOLOGIES:

Presidents:	His Holiness Iliya II
	Dr T.B. Simatupang
Members:	His Eminence Metropolitan Chrysostomos
	Rev. J. Gatu

APPENDIX II

MEMBERSHIP OF SUB-COMMITTEES

Sub-Committee on Finance

Rev. Dr R.J. Marshall (Moderator)
His Eminence Antonie (Plamadeala)
Prof. Dr A.M. Barkat
Mr Bena-Silu
Bishop Dr H.H. Harms
Rev. Dr J.O. McCloud
Rev. Dr J. Rossel
Ms P. Webb

Sub-Committee on Programme

His Holiness Karekin II (Moderator)
Rev. J. Gatu
His Eminence Metropolitan Dr Paulos Mar Gregorios
Bishop Dr J.W. Hempel
His Holiness Iliya II
Prof. J. Miguez-Bonino

Sub-Committee on Staffing and Nominations

Ms J. Skuse (Moderator)
Rev. Dr A. Appel
Hon. Mrs Justice A.R. Jiagge
Rev. Dr Won Yong Kang
His Eminence Archbishop Kirill (Gundayayev)

Review Sub-Committee

Dr C. Wedel (Moderator)
His Eminence Antonie (Plamadeala)
Ms D. Sampath

Ms M. Oduyoye (Moderator, Unit I)
Prof. Dr A.M. Barkat (Moderator, Unit II)
Principal O. Engström (Moderator, Unit III)
Rev. Dr R.J. Marshall (Moderator, Sub-Committee on Finance)

APPENDIX III

REPORT OF THE REVIEW SUB-COMMITTEE

PREFACE

The Review Sub-Committee, appointed by the Central Committee in Jamaica in January 1979, met in September 1979 and reported to the Executive Committee at that time. It held a second meeting August 6 - 8, 1980. The Moderators of the three Programme Units are members of the Sub-Committee, and the three Staff Moderators of the Units met with us. The directors and other staff of sub-units joined us for discussion of their actions as a result of our earlier recommendations. We were pleased with the many expressions by sub-unit directors of the positive results which are evident in having staff moderators of the major units who are not also responsible for a sub-unit. The Review Sub-Committee also appreciated the advice of these staff moderators in regard to the work of the sub-units. We deeply appreciate the positive and cooperative attitudes of the sub-unit directors with whom we met to discuss their actions in response to our September 1979 report to the Executive Committee.

This Sub-Committee is part of an on-going review process which began after the Nairobi Assembly. The first Review Committee was chaired by H.H. Catholicos Karekin II and reported to the Central Committee in 1976. The second Review Committee was appointed in 1977. It held one meeting, in September 1978, and reported to the Central Committee in 1979, at which time the present Sub-Committee was appointed to oversee the implementation of Review Committee recommendations. In this meeting we were concerned with following up previous recommendations and turning our attention to the procedures which will be necessary as we look ahead to the Assembly in 1983.

I. FOLLOW-UP ON PREVIOUS RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Recommendations in the area of Education

On the recommendation of the Review Sub-Committee, the Executive Committee meeting in September 1979 agreed "to approve in principle the proposed transfer of the Programme on Theological Education to the Programme Unit on Education and Renewal, as well as the suggested realignment of programmes between the sub-unit on Education and CWME".

(a) On the basis of reports from the sub-units involved, the Review Sub-Committee now recommends to the Executive Committee to reconfirm its approval of the transfer of the Programme on Theological Education to the Programme Unit on Education and Renewal. This transfer should become effective as from 1st January 1981.

In making this recommendation, the Review Sub-Committee is guided by the following convictions:

- that significant developments have taken place in the member churches and among theological educational institutions, opening up the traditional understanding of theological education for a wider involvement of the whole people of God;

- that this transfer would serve to reaffirm the original mandate given to the former Office of Education in the sense of "seeing Education whole";

- that this action would facilitate the visible concentration of the total resources of the WCC in the area of education with a view to a greater impact on the constituency and in particular on the process of preparing for the Sixth Assembly;

- that the transfer would help to strengthen and broaden the theological dimension in the work of Unit III as a whole;

- that the existing links of cooperation between the PTE and the sub-units in Unit I, in particular Faith and Order and CWME, should not be weakened.

(b) In line with its earlier recommendations regarding a realignment of programmes on Ecumenical Education, Development Education and Education for Mission, the Review Sub-Committee:

- welcomes the steps already undertaken in this direction by the sub-units on Education, by CWME and CCPD;

- urges the sub-unit on Education to go ahead with the projected joint venture with CCPD in the field of Ecumenical Development Education, hoping that this will contribute to a bridging of the gap between the traditional Christian Education efforts based on teaching and the action oriented initiatives in the field of education for justice, peace and development;

- expects that these efforts will lead, by the end of 1981, to a gradual diminishing of special educational programmes in CCPD, CWME and other sub-units concerned, while affirming the continuing importance of the educational dimension of the work of these sub-units.

(c) The Review Sub-Committee welcomes the fact that the review of all Scholarships programmes of the WCC which had been called for by the earlier Review

Committee has now been carried out, and that a full report is being presented to this meeting of Central Committee.

2. Renewal and Congregational Life (RCL)

The Review Sub-Committee welcomes the implementation of the recommendations which had been adopted by the Executive Committee in September 1979. It is encouraged by reports regarding the efforts which are being undertaken to secure more designated programme funds for this sub-unit.

3. Communication Department

The Review Sub-Committee welcomes the fact that the new four-section structure for the Communication Department has been implemented as from 1st January 1980. Referring to the recommendations adopted by the Executive Committee in September 1979 regarding the proposed strengthening of the Publications Section, as well as concerning the future of the Ecumenical Review and the coordination of sub-unit periodicals on the level of the Programme Units, the Review Sub-Committee expects that the efforts presently undertaken will be concluded in due course so that a report can be presented to the Executive Committee in February 1981.

The Review Sub-Committee was aware of the stupendous task which the Communication Department will be facing in the context of the Assembly preparations. It recommends that the Department present an overall plan, including a timetable, for activities in the communication aspect of Assembly preparations to the Central Committee in 1981.

4. Unit II

The Review Sub-Committee received reports about the various actions already taken by the Executive Group of Unit II regarding realignment of programmes directly related to the Unit as a whole, i.e. the decision to transfer the Migration Secretariat to CICARWS; to transfer the Study Secretariat to CCPD; to maintain the Human Rights Resources Office for Latin America for the immediate future with a clear set of guidelines, and to re-organise the Finance office and the financial structure of the Unit. The Review Sub-Committee welcomes these actions which implement a number of its recommendations made in September 1979.

The Review Sub-Committee also received reports about a series of discussions which have been held between various sub-units in Unit II with a view to strengthening their co-operative relationships. The Review Sub-Committee urges the sub-units as well as the Unit Executive Group to continue this process of internal review.

5. Three-year Financial Plan

The realignments listed above (paragraphs 1 - 4) were a part of the Review Sub-Committee's efforts to fulfil the instructions given by the Central Committee in January 1979 and had a pertinence for tailoring the Council's work to fit the available resources. The Central Committee had approved a multi-year financial plan which envisioned deficits in 1979 and 1980, a balanced budget in 1981, and repayment in 1982 and 1983 of accumulated deficits so as to assure a sound financial condition for the Council at the time of the Assembly. With a greater stability in exchange rates that held within the fixed rates used for WCC budgets, with realignment and other reductions in spending, and with increased giving by the member churches, the worst fears about the finances of the Council did not materialise. By the end of 1979, the Exchange Fluctuation Fund was restored to its pre-1978 level and the Operating Balance was kept at a level sufficient to meet the items budgeted for funding from Central Church Treasuries. The problem appears in the fund balances of the sub-units, which dropped by about 12% in 1979 from Sfr 12,100,000 at the beginning of the year to Sfr 10,700,000 at the end. A further drop to Sfr 9,800,000 by the end of 1980 is anticipated. The Finance Sub-Committee has been considering the amount of fund balances which would be required for an adequate cash flow. It might require two or three years to accumulate the appropriate minimum balance for some of the sub-units. Such minimum balances would assure donors that the WCC is not accumulating excessive reserves and is operating on a sound basis.

The Review Sub-Committee recommends that the Assistant General Secretary for Finance and Administration work with each sub-unit to develop a plan for establishing minimum fund balances in order to have a proposal for consideration by the Executive Committee in February 1981.

6. Project System and Funding Instruments

The Review Sub-Committee received a report on the review of the Project System, which had been inaugurated by CWME and CICARWS. On the basis of the initial document, the "Newby Report", a consultation at Cartigny affirmed basic concepts for moving towards a more holistic approach towards needs in a given place. The Review Sub-Committee agreed with the recommendation from Cartigny that there should be as much coordination as possible between the funding instruments of different sub-units and they should not be limited to CWME and CICARWS. Such integration would be consistent with the efforts at coordination of resource development. The Review Sub-Committee urges all sub-units concerned to participate in a process that will lead to the coordination of funding instruments.

II. LOOKING AHEAD TO THE ASSEMBLY

Through all of our work we have kept in mind two operational emphases which came from Nairobi and which were lifted up by the first Review Committee. These are:

a) More inter-action between theological reflection and action,

b) emphasis on more participation in the work of the Council by the member churches.

A major issue in our discussion was clarification of the meaning and implications of our earlier recommendation approved by the Central Committee in January 1979 that all programmes of the Council be brought to a fruitful conclusion by the end of 1981, in order that resources of money and personnel could be freed at that time for Assembly preparation

The Assembly is the major governing body of the WCC, the only place where all the member churches are represented. It is the Assembly which draws the broad lines of action for the Council, which are then entrusted to the Central Committee for implementation. But even a large Assembly permits only a very small number of people from the member churches to participate directly in the life and work of the Council.

For this reason, and in light of the mandate to find ways for greater participation of the member churches, the Review Sub-Committee recommends that the year 1982 be devoted to a carefully planned series of regional meetings and visitations to member churches. Members of the Central Committee and of Unit and sub-unit committees, commissions and working groups, as well as staff, should take part in such visits and meetings. This would make it possible for many more people than ever before to learn first-hand of the work of the Council, and it would permit staff and committee members to learn of the interests and concerns of the member churches. This could be especially meaningful in many parts of the Third World. We see this as an exciting opportunity to disseminate information and knowledge about the wholeness of the WCC and its work to greater numbers of people in the member churches and outside them.

Such a programme would not only inform the churches about the WCC as an organisation, but would present the Units of the Council with an unparalleled opportunity to tell of their work, to see the impact of this work on the churches, and to discover new constituencies and new sources of support It would also provide a setting within which those who are delegates to the Sixth Assembly can become informed and involved during the years prior to the Assembly and so come to Vancouver ready to participate and share.

Obviously, so ambitious a programme will require the time of staff and members of committees, as well as a great deal of money. It is for this reason that the Review Sub-Committe

has recommended the "fruitful conclusion" of programmes by the end of 1981 and the holding of no commission, working or advisory group meeting - with the exception of executive or 'core' groups where absolutely necessary - between then and the Assembly. All of our resources of money and personnel should be concentrated on communicating with and involving the member churches. We hope that every Unit and sub-unit will see this as a great opportunity to make their work known to a much wider constituency.

Obviously, the WCC Units work with a plurality of methodologies. Not all sub-units pursue programmes which start and end at a given point. But each Unit and sub-unit can find its best way to participate. We will need the charisma of those in the "service" units as well as those involved in studies.

RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING SPECIAL PROGRAMMES

In the period since the Nairobi Assembly a considerable number of programmes have been undertaken which were sponsored by more than one sub-unit. These programmes offered opportunities not only to reach new constituencies and to approach new concerns, but also to develop models of cooperation between different sub-units with sometimes widely divergent methodologies and styles of work. As these special programmes come to an end, the Units and sub-units should not lose sight of the lessons learned from these experiences of cooperation. They will be of great value for the task ahead of preparing the Assembly.

1. Study on the Community of Women and Men in the Church

The Review Sub-Committee reaffirms its understanding that the present programme will come to an end with the concluding report which is to be presented to the meeting of the Faith and Order Commission in January 1982. The follow-up of the programme will be the responsibility of the two sponsoring sub-units, i.e. the Commission on Faith and Order and the sub-unit on Women.

2. Family Power and Social Change

It is the understanding of the Review Sub-Committee that the special programme on "Family Power and Social Change" has come to an end with the world assembly on the Family which was held in Oaxtepec, Mexico, in January 1980. The Sub-Committee has received detailed reports about initiatives for the follow-up of the programme which has already begun, and which is projected until the end of 1981.

3. Programme on Transnational Corporations

It is the understanding of the Review Sub-Committee that the Unit-wide programme in Unit II on Transnational Corporations will be concluded after the international consultation

planned for November 1981, and expects that a report will be presented to the Central Committee in 1982. Any immediate follow-up will be the responsibility of CCPD as part of its regular programme.

4. Programme for Disarmament and against Militarism and Arms Race

The Review Sub-Committee reconfirms its understanding that this special Unit-wide programme in Unit II will be concluded by 1981 and expects that a report will be presented to the Central Committee in 1982. The Review Sub-Committee further expects that the concerns of this programme will continue to receive attention under the mandate of the Commission of the Churches on International Affairs (CCIA).

5. Ecumenical Sharing of Resources

This Unit-wide study in Unit II will be concluded as a special programme with the report to be submitted to the Central Committee in 1980. The Review Sub-Committee recognises that the Commission on Inter-Church Aid has already made provision for the follow-up of important recommendations arising from the study. The Review Sub-Committee further expects that the main thrusts emerging from the study will also be taken up in the context of preparations for the Sixth Assembly.

6. Youth Programme

The Executive Committee in September 1979 approved a modification of the original plan to hold a world youth assembly in 1981. The Review Sub-Committee commends the Youth Working Group for developing and beginning the implementation of a comprehensive programme of ecumenical youth work in cooperation with the Regional Youth Secretaries leading up to the Sixth Assembly. It expects that from 1982 onwards the programme will become part of the process of Assembly preparations.

7. Other special programmes

It is the understanding of the Review Sub-Committee that, in addition to the above-mentioned programmes, any other special programmes such as, for example, the programme on Energy for my Neighbour, the projected programme on the International Year of Disabled People, together with their advisory groups; as well as other special advisory groups appointed by specific sub-units such as, for example, the International Economic Advisory Group of CCPD, would not project activities beyond the end of 1981, and would submit reports through the respective sub-units to the Central Committee in 1982. In affirming this understanding, the Review Sub-Committee wants to express its appreciation for the new dimensions and

networks of ecumenical activity which have been opened up through these programmes. It urges the Units and sub-units concerned to enlist the contribution and expertise of the persons involved in these activities in the process of Assembly preparation so that the gains made in recent years would not only be consolidated but spread more widely.

8. Functioning of Programme Units

The Review Sub-Committee wants to underline the increasing importance of a participatory and cooperative style of work of the Programme Units in a period of Assembly preparation. It encourages the Units and sub-units to make fullest use of the structural provisions already existing, and commends the model of a Unit Executive Group as developed in Unit II.

FIRST STEPS IN PREPARING THE ASSEMBLY

1. The preparation for the Assembly should be considered as an integral part of the total Assembly process. Although the Assembly itself will begin on 24th July 1983, the gathering of representatives and newly appointed delegates of the member churches in regional preparatory meetings, as well as visitations to member churches, should be seen as leading up to the Assembly as such. It might therefore be said that the World Council of Churches will begin to gather for its Sixth Assembly from 1982 onwards.

2. In order to allow this process to develop its full potential, it is necessary that the official delegates to the Sixth Assembly be appointed as early as possible. The Review Sub-Committee therefore requests the Central Committee to take all appropriate action to assure this.

3. Regional meetings are of central importance for this plan of Assembly preparation. The Review Sub-Committee recommends that early contacts be sought with all regional ecumenical organisations in order to share the vision of moving towards the Sixth Assembly of the World Council.

4. The regional meetings should include, in addition to newly appointed delegates, present members of Central Committee, commissions, working groups, as well as specialised advisory groups of the WCC coming from the respective region. Efforts should also be made to seek the participation of persons from the networks of ecumenical groups with which the World Council has been in active partnership. In some of the regions this may mean planning for sub-regional meetings instead of one large regional meeting.

5. Another central feature of the process of Assembly preparation is visits to and between member churches of the WCC. These should involve - in addition to WCC staff - in the

first place Assembly delegates and people who have been involved in WCC work in recent years, preferably in teams. The process has three distinct yet inter-related objectives: to share with the churches what the WCC has done over the past six years; to listen to what the churches are saying to the WCC; and to identify emerging issues for the period following the Assembly.

6. Regional meetings as well as visitations should have a basic common agenda, including a succinct and interpretative report on the activities of the WCC since the Nairobi Assembly. It is hoped that the visits and meetings will serve as an occasion where the WCC can render an account of its work to the member churches, and where the member churches can make known their comments and reactions to the report. This would enable the Central Committee to incorporate the reactions from the member churches in its final report which it will submit to the Assembly for approval. The Review Sub-Committee therefore recommends that an outline of a preliminary report be shared with the Executive Committee in February 1981 and that the report be approved by the Central Committee at its meeting in August 1981.

7. During the period of Assembly preparation, the Programme Units will assume increased importance. Much of the overall coordinating responsibility will have to be carried by the Unit Committees. It is therefore recommended that the Unit Committees be requested to give central thrusts and programmatic foci of the Assembly. Their proposals should then be shared with the Committee on the General Secretariat so that an integrated report can be brought to the Central Committee for discussion and action.

8. Based on this understanding of Assembly preparation, and building on the main elements indicated above, the Review Sub-Committee recommends that a detailed plan, including a timetable of events and an indication of the distribution of staff responsibilities, be worked out immediately for presentation to the Executive Committee in February 1981.

APPENDIX IV

SPECIAL FUND TO COMBAT RACISM

LIST OF ALLOCATIONS FOR 1980

I. RACIALLY OPPRESSED GROUPS

Africa

*	African National Congress (ANC)	US $	150,000
*	South West Africa Peoples Organization (SWAPO	US $	200,000
		US $	350,000

Asia

*	National Council for Combating Discrimination against Ethnic Peoples in Japan	US $	20,000

Australia - New Zealand

	Foundation for Aboriginal & Islander Research Action	US $	5,000
*	Kimberley Land Council	US $	10,000
	North Queensland Black Publishing Company	US $	10,000
	Yipirinya School Council	US $	15,000
*	Te Ropu Tomokia	US $	4,000
		US $	44,000

Caribbean

	Movimiento Ecumenico Nacional (PRISA), Puerto Rico	US $	10,000

North America (USA & Canada)

	Asian Law Caucus	US $	7,500
	Black New York Action Committee	US $	7,500
	Campaign to Oppose Bank Loans to S.A.	US $	10,000
	DNA-People's Legal Services	US $	10,000
*	Haitian Refugee Project	US $	10,000
*	Institute of the Black World	US $	10,000
	Manzo Area Council	US $	10,000
	Save Native Hawaiians	US $	15,000
	Southern Africa Support Project	US $	10,000
	TransAfrica	US $	25,000
	Western Shoshone Sacred Association	US $	7,500
	C/fwd.	US $	122,500

B/fwd. US $ 12

Canada

Canadian Caribbean Afro-Asia Ministerial ..... US $

Council for Yukon Indians ..... US $ 1

* DENE Nation ..... US $ 1

US $ 15

Europe

Britain

* Institute of Race Relations ..... US $ 1

* Race Today Collective ..... US $ 1

Southall Youth Movement ..... US $ 1

France

* Association of Moroccans in France ..... US $ 1

* Migrant Workers' Centre ..... US $ 1

* Haitian Workers Association ..... US $ 1

* General Union of Senegalese Workers ..... US $ 1

Netherlands

Cultural Media Collective ..... US $ 1

US $ 1(

II. SUPPORT GROUPS

Australia - *Campaign against Racial Exploitation ... US $

*Institute for Aboriginal Development ... US $

*Southern Africa Liberation Centre ..... US $

Austria - Anti-Apartheid Movement ..... US $

Belgium - *Aktiekomitee Zuidelijk Afrika *Committee against Colonialism & Apartheid) US $

Britain - *Anti-Apartheid Movement ..... US $

*Hong-Kong Research Project ..... US $

*Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants US $

Canada - *Toronto Committee for the Liberation of Southern Africa ..... US $

France - *Mouvement Anti-Apartheid / C.A.O. ..... US $

Germany [West] - *Anti-Apartheid Movement *Informationsdienst Südliches Afrika) US $

- Interessengemeinschaft der mit Ausländern verheirateten deutschen Frauen US $

C/fwd. US $

	B/fwd.	US $ 65,000
II. Support groups con't.		
Netherlands - Holland Committee on Southern Africa ..	US $	10,000
New Zealand - *N.Z. Anti-Apartheid Movement	US $	5,000
USA - Center for Constitutional Rights	US $	5,000
*Washington Office on Africa	US $	7,000
	US $	92,000

Total : US $ 775,500

*Movements which received grants before